good quality service to passengers, complaints which arise from time to time are attended to promptly and remedial measures taken to redress the grievances including preventive measures and deterrent action against the persons at fault.

Year	No. of complaints	No. of cases where action taken
1993-94	361	322
1994-95	351	323
1995-96	308	268

(c) Improvement in catering service is an on-going and continuous process. Steps taken include—supply of meals in Casseroles; supply of ready to eat fast food items at stations and on trains; installation of Vending Machines to sell hot and cold beverages; undertaking food sample checks by the Medical Deptt. for lab tests to prevent food adulteration etc., training of catering staff at recognised institutions and frequent inspections by officers/staff.

Assessment Regarding Requirement and Production of Foodgrains by 2000 A.D.

2364. DR. B.B. DUTTA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment regarding the requirement and production of foodgrains in the country by 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have drawnup any action plan to achieve the target;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which productivity level of various foodgrains particularly that of wheat, rice, pulses and oilseeds are proposed to be raised during the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The normative requirement of foodgrains for the country as a whole by 2000 AD has been assessed at 204.5 million tonnes. As regards the production of foodgrains, the Planning Commission in the Eighth Five Year Plan Document have projected foodgrains production for the year 2001-2002 at 245.0 million tonnes for the country.

(c) and (d) To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains in the country, the Government has been implementing various Centrally Sponsored Schemes which include Integrated Cereals Development Programmes in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals based cropping system areas; Accelerated Maize Development Programme and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) besides providing market and price support to the farmers.

(e) The productivity levels of foodgrains and oilseeds would be examined while finalising the Ninth Five Year Plan by the Planning Commission.

National Pulses Development Projects in Bihar

2365. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing the National Pulses Development Project in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the steps Government have taken to encourage the farmers in the State to produce more pulses in the State; and

(d) the incentives being given to them for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is under implementation in Bihar State. The expenditure under the Scheme is being shared on 75:25 basis between Government of India and the State. For 1996-97, an allocation of Rs. 131.00 lakh as GOI share, has been made to the State.

(c) and (d) In order to encourage the farmers to produce more pulses, the incentives are being provided to them on the use of certified seeds, seed treating chemicals,

Rhizobium culture, micro-nutrients, sprinkler irrigation sets, improved farm implements etc. Besides, field demonstrations and farmers' trainings are also being organised for the effective transfer of improved pulses production technology.

Slums on Railway Property in Maharashtra

2366. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will come forward to solve problems of slums on the railway property by joining hands with the Maharashtra State Government for the purpose;

(b) if not, whether Government have any other scheme in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Resettlement/Rehabilitation of slum-dwellers is the responsibility of the State Government.

Import of High-Yielding Tobacco Seeds

2367. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored the possibility of importing high-yiedling high quality tobacco seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CTRI has made any time bound programme to raise the present red soil tobacco yields in West Godavari and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) yes, Sir. The collection of germplasm including of high yielding varieties from various countries is a continuing programme through National Bureau of Plant Genetic resources (NBPGR) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for evaluation, maintenance and release of promising lines suitable for different tobacco growing conditions.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The yield level of virginia tobacco in red soils has been improved substantially in the past due to release of high yielding blank Shank disease resistant varieties developed/identified by Central Tobacco Research Institute. The various high yielding and disease/pest resistant varieties developed/ identified during recent past, include CM-12(K), NLS-4, NLS-5 etc.

Non-Punctuality of Narzapur Express

2368. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Narzapur Express in South-Central Railway is known for its non-punctuality;

(b) whether it is a fact that it has never reached Narzapur on time in 1996 so far; and

(c) if so, how does the South-Central Railway propose to improve the punctuality of this train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The punctuality performance of Narzapur Express is satisfactory.

(c) Does not arise.

News item captioned "Pollution control scheme a non-starter"

2369. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned ""Pollution control scheme a non-starter", as reported in the Statesman, dated 28th July, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the scheme to have pollution checking centres at all petrol pumps in the city have failed to achieve its goal;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND